

# TWI-LIGHTS

VOLUME 2 | SPRING/SUMMER 2019

## Pomeroy Sign

TRAIL WORKS HELD A DEDICATION FOR OUR NEWEST POMEROY SIGN AT THE SODUS-WALLINGTON TRAIL HEAD.



## Winter on Wayne County Trails

BOARD MEMBER NANCY SNYDER SHARES HER PERSPECTIVE ON HOW THE TRAILS COME ALIVE IN WINTER.

## Nature Writing Workshop

CHECK OUT THE WRITINGS OF SEVERAL OF OUR TRAIL WORKS MEMBERS!





## Outdoor and Nature Writing Workshop

Trail Works hosted an Outdoor and Nature Writing workshop on National Trails Day, June 1 from 10 AM to noon at the Williamson Town Park. This event was free and open to the public, and there was an opportunity to hike the area, seeking inspiration from the nature attendees experienced. The workshop was led by Chris Kenyon.

Chris Kenyon of Wolcott, NY is a regular outdoor columnist with the Finger Lakes Times and the Sun and Record as well as a freelance writer with other publications. In addition he is a Recreational Promotional Coordinator for Wayne County Tourism.

Kenyon became an outdoor photographer after leaving the US Navy in 1969. He is an avid reader and started writing poems and keeping journals 50 years ago. To this day Kenyon continues to marvel at the inspirations that flow from nature for a writer. His college education in Agronomy had nothing to do with either photography or writing and he is fond of saying, "I didn't apply myself."

Kenyon takes time to work with the Montezuma Audubon Center on programs involving kids, including their Youth Pheasant Hunt. He is a constant presence at sportsmen's events, shows, and anything involving the outdoors. Kenyon is a tireless advocate for the enjoyment of the outdoors, preserving the environment, and sharing knowledge and skills.

Please see the following page for some of the inspired writings from those who attended.

# “So Many Greens”

Pond Scum  
New grass,  
"TrailWorks" Kelly green shirts,  
Deep first green of the stately pines.  
Clover green,  
Cat tails wave in the wind  
    anchored by their pale green stems  
As a bullfrog croaks,  
    the wind whispers and shouts  
    and the bird chorus accompanies  
        the drone of a distant lawnmower.

CAROL MAY



## “Thoughts of Nature”

We all have five senses - some possibly six - so nature can be a catalyst for them all. Nature helps enrich our existence.

**Eyesight** gives us the projector for the muted and vibrant seasonal colors and the myriad of images that surround us.

When the wind blows, we **feel** the might or gentleness of the area around us. It gives us peace in a whisper, a breeze, a gust, to a full-blown storm, to even a small breath.

**Listen** to the croak of a frog, the buzz of a bee, the chirp of a bird, the growl of a bear, bleat of a fawn, hiss of a snake and the rustle of the trees.

**Taste** the salt of the ocean surf, the flavor of the food grown from the rich earth, the tanginess of the coming rain or snow, the acidity of fallen leaves, the savor of a warm kiss.

Fresh cut grass plowed and manured fields, the scent of flowers, the bark of a tree and the swampy stagnate bogs and ponds are all captured by our sensitive **smell**.

Watch the translucent dragonfly skim across the pond  
causing ripples to lap against the rusty reeds  
and feel the tickle of the budding cattails as the  
red wing blackbird gently lands on a  
neighboring reed and releases its song.  
Viewing this from the weathered deck with the heat of the mid-day sun  
wafting up the scent of resin and sap  
as it succumbs to the sun's rays.

CINDY AMAN





# WINTER ON WAYNE COUNTY TRAILS

Having already completed her “Dirty Thirty,” board member Nancy Snyder set out to earn some badges with the Wegmans “Hit the Trails” app.

This winter found me spending a good deal of time on Wayne County trails. I didn’t make it to Florida, and took advantage of the time to use my skis and snowshoes. President Mark DeCracker needed a “boots on the ground” person to help test our new winter badges on the “Hit the Trail” App. I used the incentive of earning my own badges to get out of the house and get some exercise! At least in the winter, you don’t need bug spray!

My winter adventures included 11 Trail Works Passport Trails, a First Day Hike at Casey Park, a hike with the Genesee Land Trust at the Miller property in North Rose, and a hike at May’s apple farm in Ontario. Here are some highlights:

**Alasa Farms** has always been special to me...a neighbor of mine for 36 years and a place steeped in rich history. Upon arriving and getting into my XC skis at the horse barn, I was delighted that the Shaker History badge popped up! Heading out on the trail, I was



greeted by several horses. The trail to the camp ground is adjacent to a wide open field that made for a pretty windy ski day. Finding the Passport marker in the camp ground circle, I earned the Alasa Farms winter badge. I also found some very nice trails posted by the Genesee Land Trust. The Farm was a delightful place to ski, and I gained a different perspective than the first time I hiked this trail during the hot summer. Just listening to the trees in the wind and watching the snow



gently fall off the branches made the cold day more bearable. I was out there for over two hours.

A winter hike on the **Third Creek** trail was fun as well. Leaving the skis and snowshoes behind, this hike took more effort because of the heavy, wet snow. Deep into the woods, I located the Passport marker and received the Third Creek winter badge. Since I had good packing snow, I endeavored to build a small snowman in the woods and dress him up with things from nature... lots of fun!

The **Whistlewood Trail**, site of an old Girl Scout camp, presented me with my greatest challenge this winter. Not only was it frigid with the lake winds howling, the trails were full of ice, ice and more ice! Once I saw this, I seriously considered leaving, especially with my bad knees. But as long as I had made the trip, I decided to stay and press on. Like Third Creek, I just hiked in with treaded boots and poles. It was a challenge to get to the top of the Red trail hill where the Passport marker was located. Somehow I managed the icy climb without incident. Thank goodness for my poles! I earned the Whistlewood green badge at the Passport marker. My decision now was to wait for the winter badge to download, climb back down that steep Red trail hill, or hike out on the Blue trail to the north towards the lake. The Blue trail won out. In the end, the last part Blue trail heading down to the road proved to be mighty treacherous. It looked like an ice chute... if only I had a bobsled or a saucer! As I hung on to trees on the shoulders of that icy trail, I got down to the road...very tricky! A nice reward for my efforts awaited me at the end. At the kiosk on the trailhead, the Whistlewood Girl Scout History badge popped up...just before my phone died! I also gained another perspective on this trail from my summer hike there. As the lake winds roared through the woods, you could hear the bare tree branches clicking and clacking against each other. I was lucky none of them came down on my head!



I learned some valuable lessons here. Winter hikes in icy conditions absolutely call for a good pair of traction cleats, Microspikes, or YakTraks...a purchase for next winter. Also, cold zaps the power right out of a cell phone! Wrap it up good in a heavy sock or mitten and keep it close to your body. Had I needed to call for help on that frigid day at Whistlewood, I would have been in trouble! And lastly, you still need sunscreen on sunny winter days!

Don't let the cold and snow keep you in the house and off the trails. Download the "Hit the Trail" App, get outside, get some exercise, be safe, and have fun! Happy Winter Trails!

**NANCY SNYDER**  
*Trail Works Board Member*



The winner of the \$250 Wegmans Gift card was Debi Himes of Sodus, NY. Debi finished the trails in October of 2012 and was pleased to accept the award. She had this to share about the program; "Walking Wegman's trails has allowed me to get closer to nature and explore Wayne County and surrounding areas otherwise unknown to me. I have found an inner quiet listening to a waterfall ... It is also a great low impact exercise along the way."



# “Earthly Epiphany”

This poem was written as part of the Outdoor and Nature Writing worship led by Chris Kenyon and hosted by Trail Works on National Trails Day, June 1st.

What the heck am I doing tramping through  
this dirty,  
musty,  
smelly,  
mosquito infested,  
poison ivy covered,  
snake lair  
piece of ground?  
I sweat,  
I cringe at unfamiliar sounds,  
I jump from fear at sticks suddenly turned to snakes  
My imagination runs amok,  
leads me through a scenario of only  
negative endings.

Picking up my pace,  
I trip, fall and land  
flat, bringing my face

into dirt and leaves and twigs  
pulverized to earthy compost.

The moist, earthy smell wracks my senses  
then, strangely, seduces me.  
Rather than rising quickly,  
I remain close,  
inhaling nature in its most basic form.  
This compost will be the source,  
the lifeblood,  
the food of the forest  
Surrounding me.  
What a discovery!  
I too am reborn  
from accidentally sinking my roots  
deep into nature.

**JIM MAY**



While hiking at Casey Park in Ontario, you might want to venture across Knickerbocker Road to the new section of trail. This area has been used to feature art work and the remains of a natural materials weaving was still in place when TrailWorks member, Betty Brayer came upon it. Taking note of the natural beauty coming alive in the woods, she added her own "treasure" to the weaving.





# A PLACE APART

One volunteer writes about her experience helping to clean up the Butterfly Nature Trail.

Have you ever walked in the silence of the woods and truly paid attention? What seems like a place where previously there existed no sound, suddenly this place comes alive with the intention of growth, the promise of a vested awareness bringing forth a fascinating garden of plenty. Yes, we do have gardens where all who tend them are blessed by the recurrent sounds and sights of what they have tended and treasured. But then there are those special communal places where the combination of many peoples directive energy comes together in a place of blessed peace. THE BUTTERFLY NATURE TRAIL in Macedon Canal Park, Lock #30 is one of those places. Today my husband and I were enriched by the common ground fun of caring people linked together joyously, bringing forth a place just like that - the Butterfly Trail and also The Storybook Trail of our Macedon Public Library located in Macedon Canal Park, Lock #30.

People came from far and near to prepare for those days to come when the onset of Spring awakening opens the trails to those who have treasured these places for their own personal enjoyment. Truly this is one of Macedon's hidden treasures. The Lock #30 (formerly Macedon Village Pride) volunteers have worked diligently over the years to claim this place as a place of extensive joy. Many from all over the world have come to explore the indepth experience of a walk in the park, and there are three notebooks at the Welcome Stand filled with the positive and increasingly aware comments. Drawn here by those who have walked before them, they were privileged to open new doors of nature's awareness, and content to just observe, they recorded so many beautiful things. Please

feel free to experience this walk yourself, recording your thoughts and feelings re this lovely Trail.

Sometimes there is a place where beauty speaks. In this world of chaos and unexpected negative events, we are blessed to have this lovely gathering place - a place which has consistently been here for centuries, and yet we have just rediscovered its original intent. A place for those who are in need of solace, for those who have physical problems which would make it difficult for them to go elsewhere, and for children - children of all ages who have decided to remember the beauty of natural surroundings - and for those who have forgotten what it was to know childlike wonder in infinite form, where the sights and sounds of nature's echoing voice reverberate throughout the entire Trail. This morning the birds were singing - such a joyful sound after a cold and snowy winter - especially a day when the weatherman had originally declared a very rainy and windy day. It never came. The sun is shining - and it is almost 60 degrees, and volunteers are coming in all over the place to gather as a community of hopeful intent. The Lock 30 Volunteers, The Macedon Public Library's representatives and the burgeoning forcefield of those who are beginning to understand that this IS a lovely place to reflect, and despite any and all who would feel that they have no hope in their lives - just by coming to this place of ultimate miracles carved out by generations of peaceful people, that we are a community of hope....and isn't it an amazing and awesome journey to determine as such?

**CAROL ELAINE DEYS**  
**PARA-DEYS ACRES**





# POMEROY SIGN DEDICATED

Trail Works held a Pomeroy Historic Marker dedication ceremony for the Sodus-Wallington Rail Trail on Tuesday, June 18, 6:30 p.m. This short ceremony took place in the hamlet of Wallington, Town of Sodus, at the northeast corner of Ridge Road and North Geneva Road that marks the southern starting point of this six mile round-trip trail. Special thank-you to Glenn Wallis for all of his efforts in researching for and obtaining this sign.

## Newsletter Submissions & Mailings

Please note that the deadline for submissions for the Fall 2019 "TWI-Lights" newsletter is September 15th. Please be sure to send all submissions to Bethany at [bella.comella@gmail.com](mailto:bella.comella@gmail.com).

We send digital copies of the newsletter, unless a hard copy is requested. If you would like to continue to receive a hard copy, please email Bethany at the above email address. As we are reviewing / updating our membership lists, we want to make sure that all Trail Works members are receiving the quarterly newsletter

(either print or digital) and also email updates regarding upcoming events & activities.

If you are not receiving these, please let us know! The contact form on our website is a good way to do this (<http://trailworks.org/contact/>), or a phone call or text to Seth at (315) 707-7347 works too.

**SETH C. BURGESS, Membership Committee**  
**BETHANY COMELLA, Newsletter Editor**





# TRAIL WORKS 2019 MEMBERSHIP

Dear Trail Works Members and Friends:

Trail Works is a nonprofit organization dedicated to being a unified voice for Wayne county trail users and to coordinate the development and maintenance of high quality, year round, multi-use trails.

If you have not yet renewed your Trail Works membership for the 2019 year, your membership in Trail Works expired effective December 31, 2018. Thank you for your previous support for Trail Works ' mission. If you are a first-time member, thank you for joining us! If you've been a member in the past, we hope we can continue to count on your support for the coming year (01/2019-12/2019).

Please take a moment to return your membership dues (Individual-\$15.00, Family-\$25.00, and Corporate-\$50.00), along with the renewal form.

Your dues help us to embody public education about trails and increase public awareness of trail issues. We recognize the importance of the relationship Trail Works has established with local and county governments. These relationships are vital to moving ahead on any plans for trail developments. So, we are all about trails—planning trails, cutting trails, maintaining trails, posting signage and enjoying trails.

We strive to preserve Wayne County heritage and green spaces for the enjoyment and recreation of our future generations.

Please renew your membership today. Thank you.

**The Trail Works Board & Membership Committee**

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## Trail Works, Inc. 2019 Membership Form

**Please check the type of membership:**

- ☐ single (\$15)
- ☐ corporate (\$50)
- ☐ family (# of family members: \_\_\_\_\_ ) (\$25)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make all checks payable to:**

**Trail Works, Inc.**  
ATTN: Membership  
PO Box 43  
Williamson, NY 14589



TRAIL WORKS, INC.  
PO BOX 43  
WILLIAMSON, NY 14589

trail works calendar

JULY, AUGUST, & SEPTEMBER 2019

- |              |  |
|--------------|--|
| JULY 16      | Monthly Meeting<br>Alasa Farms, 7:00 p.m.          |
| JULY 23      | Tuesdays on the Towpath<br>Abbey Park, 7:00 p.m.   |
| AUGUST 7     | Canoe/Kayak Event<br>Third Creek Launch, 6:30 p.m. |
| AUGUST 20    | Monthly Meeting<br>Camp Beechwood, 6:00 p.m.       |
| SEPTEMBER 17 | Monthly Meeting<br>Lyons Community Center, 7 p.m.  |